

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 24th June 1893.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	360	15th June 1893.
2	"Grámvási" ...	Ramkristopur, Howrah	1,000	
3	"Kaliyuga" ...	Calcutta ...	...
4	"Kasipur Nivási" ...	Kasipur, Barisál ...	300	11th ditto.
5	"Navamihir" ...	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
6	"Sadar-o-Mufassal" ...	Tahirpur, Rajshahi ...	650	
7	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	755	28th May 1893.
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>				
8	"Hitakari" ...	Tangail Mymensingh	800	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Bangavási" ...	Calcutta ...	20,000	17th June 1893.
10	"Banganivási-o-Prakriti" ...	Ditto ...	8,000	
11	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	320	13th ditto.
12	"Cháruvártá" ...	Sherpur, Mymensingh	300	12th ditto.
13	"Dacca Prákásh" ...	Dacca ...	5,000	18th ditto.
14	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	1,050	16th ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	212	
16	"Hitavádí" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	15th ditto.
17	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore ...	.....	16th ditto.
18	"Pratikár" ...	Ditto ...	611	16th ditto.
19	"Rangpur Dikprákásh" ...	Kakinia, Rangpur ...	170	
20	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta ...	800-1,000	14th ditto.
21	"Samaj-o-Sáhitya" ...	Garibpore, Nadia ...	1,000	18th ditto.
22	"Samaya" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	16th ditto.
23	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	4,000	17th ditto.
24	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	.....	21st and 28th April and 19th May 1893.
25	"Sáraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	(300-400)	17th June 1893.
26	"Som Prákásh" ...	Calcutta ...	800	19th ditto.
27	"Srimanta Sadagar" ...	Ditto ...	.....
28	"Sudhákar" ...	Ditto ...	3,600	16th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
29	"Banga Vidyá Prákáshiká" ...	Calcutta ...	500	16th and 20th to 22nd June 1893.
30	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	.....	12th and 14th to 16th June 1893.
31	"Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká" ...	Ditto ...	1,500	18th to 22nd June 1893.
32	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto ...	1,435	16th, 17th and 19th to 21st June 1893.
33	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	16th, 17th and 19th to 22nd June 1893.
34	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto ...	.....	Ditto ditto.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
35	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500-600	19th June 1893.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
36	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchár Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	400	15th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
37	"Aryávarta" ...	Dinapore ...	750	
38	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	500	
39	"Bhárat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	15th ditto.
40	"Champaram Chandrika" ...	Bettiah ...	350	
41	"Desí Vyápári" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
42	"Hindi Bangavási" ...	Ditto ...	5,000	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	750	15th ditto.
44	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....
45	"Calcutta Punch" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
46	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto ...	300	22nd May, 12th and 19th June 1893.
47	"General and Gauhariasti" ...	Ditto ...	410	15th June 1893.
48	"Mehre Monawar" ...	Muzaffarpur ...	.....
49	"Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad" ...	Murshidabad ...	150	
50	"Setare Hind" ...	Arrah ...	.....
51	"Shokh" ...	Monghyr ...	100	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
52	"Asha"	Cuttack ...	80	
53	"Echo"	Ditto ...	.....
54	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....
55	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ...	.....
56	"Taraka and Subhavartá"	Ditto ...	.....
57	"Utkalprabhá"	Baripada ...	250	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
58	"Dipaka"	Cuttack ...	.....
59	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore ...	225	
60	"Uriya and Navasamvád"	Ditto ...	420	
61	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	400	
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
62	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	480	For the second fortnight of Jyaistha, 1300 B.S.
63	"Silchar"	Silchar ...	250	

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 22nd May says that the deposition of the Khan of Khelat will be too drastic a measure, and the step ought to be taken after a most careful consideration of his case.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
May 22nd, 1893.

2. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 19th June says that the report circulated by the Anglo-Indian press that the Amir was going to dismiss his European servants has turned out to be false, as two of the Amir's employes have come to India and told people that one of them has come away on leave, and the other has come away on the expiration of his contract, which was a temporary one. The report circulated by the Anglo-Indian press was, there can be no doubt, prompted by ill-feeling towards the Amir. It is hoped that the Government will henceforward accept with caution reports regarding the Amir which may be published in the Anglo-Indian press.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
June 19th, 1893.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a). Police.

3. The *Sansodhini* of the 19th May complains of the conduct of the police authorities in Chittagong town in disallowing the Hindus and the Brahmos to take *Kirtan* processions through the streets. More than once before this *Kirtan* men were fined, and lately the police authorities gave permission to the Hindus of the town to take their *Kirtan* processions only through some specified streets. The conduct of the police was brought to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor, but His Honour declined to interfere. On the last occasion that the Hindus applied for a pass, the police authorities granted it under the condition that the procession should not pass through streets containing European residents. And the idea of the procession had to be given up, as there is almost no street in Chittagong town which does not contain at least one or two European residents.

SANSODHINI,
May 19th, 1893.

4. The *Ulubaria Darpan* of the 28th May says that the conduct of the local police officers during the late cyclone was worthy of every commendation. The Sub-Inspector, two writer-constables, and four Hindustani constables boldly came into the bazar, defying the rain and the storm, to help the traders and shop-keepers in their effort to save their goods. Many of these bazar people would have probably perished in their frantic attempts to save their property if they had not received very powerful help from these police officers.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,
May 28th, 1893.

5. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 15th June says that the son of Haradhan Banik of Indas-Sahaspur died by drowning on the afternoon of the 8th June. The matter was immediately reported to the police-station, but it was on the 10th that the police ordered the dead body to be burnt. Thus, the afflicted family had to watch over the dead body for two long days! Such remissness on the part of police officers is surely reprehensible.

BANKURA DARPAN,
June 15th, 1893.

6. The *General and Gauhariasfi* of the 15th June says that the society formed by certain Hindus for the prevention of cow-slaughter by Muhammadans is inciting Hindus all over the country to offer resistance to the Muhammadans who may slaughter cows at the coming Eed-ul-zoha festival. This may lead to serious breaches of the public peace, and the authorities ought to take timely precautionary measures.

GENERAL AND
GAUHARIASFI,
June 15th, 1893.

7. The *Bangavasi* of the 17th June says that the chaukidars of Mahmudnagar, within the jurisdiction of the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, do not perform their duties properly, and thefts have therefore become rife in the village.

BANGAVASI,
June 17th, 1893.

BANGAVASI,
June 17th, 1893.

8. The same paper says that though the District Superintendent of Police came on an inspecting tour to Nawabganj in the Dacca district, his inspection was confined within the four walls of the thana, and he made no satisfactory arrangement for watch and ward. The place is infested with *budmashes*.

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

9. The *Sanjivani* of the 17th June makes some extracts from the judgment of the Second Munsif of Mymensingh passed in the suit Abdul Sarkar *versus* Harish Chandra Guha, Court Sub-Inspector. With reference to the defendant's allegation that the case is the outcome of malice on the part of Raja Suryya Kanta and Babu Mahim Chandra Rai Chaudhuri, the Munsif says: "Though the defendant admits that he has no evidence to prove the Raja's connection with this case, he has not the candour to admit the mistake or to regret it. Either the defendant has made this allegation falsely or most recklessly, and any way without justification." Again: "So far as Mahim Babu himself is personally concerned, there has been proved to be no reasonable ground for enmity between Mahim Babu and the defendant."

The following is another extract:—

"I may here observe that it is absurd to think that every man should be going to the defendant for all sorts of favours. The defendant must have been invested with quite omnipotent or autocratic power to be able to fulfil their expectations. He is expected to prosecute cases to conviction when it is a lame one, to prevent the challaning of accused persons where a Magistrate has ordered it, and sometime by magic art to influence Magistrates to let off accused persons when their conviction is sure, and to do all sorts of easy services. The defendant must have a very high opinion of his authority and powers to dare to suggest such things and expect a Court of Justice to believe them. But it would be insulting the common sense of any person outside the lunatic asylum to ask him to believe that the world-wise and astute zamindari amla, and the experienced and intelligent pleader would go to the defendant with similar request not once but oftener, and that even after the receipt of snubbing and consequent disappointment. It is observable that the improved insinuations on this point go much further than the positive allegations of the defendant."

And this too:—

"The defendant's evidence in detail is not satisfactory, and in some points it is, to say the least of it, most suspicious. It is full of prevarication, and attempts at concealment are neither few and far between. He has disowned his own written statements, and his pleader contradicted himself over and over again, never candidly admits even a mistake, but persists in them with a tenacity, which leads to a conclusion that they were wilful falsehoods. His whole evidence is unreliable."

The police authorities are requested to read the judgment.

SANJIVANI.

10. The same paper says that thefts of cattle have become very common in Diamond Harbour. The thieves expect handsome pecuniary gratification from the owners, and as soon as they get it they leave the cattle in places where their owners can easily find them. But the police is perfectly indifferent in the matter.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 18th, 1893.

11. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 18th June refers to the affray which lately took place in the village of Durgapur in the Brahmanbaria sub-division of the Tippera district between the villagers and the men of the Bengal-Assam Railway Company, and in which an Engineer of the Railway, Mr. King, was seriously wounded, and remarks that it is difficult to decide which of the two parties is mainly responsible for this affray. But it is a well-known fact that both the officers and the coolies of Railways commit a good deal of oppression at the time of the construction of roads and railways. Many such acts of oppression took place at the time the rails of the East Indian Railway were first laid, and the writer himself was an eye-witness of an oppression of this kind in which two Englishmen of Magra, accompanied by more than a hundred coolies, committed a regular dacoity in the house of the Majumdars of Triveni, and escaped scotfree, in spite of all the efforts of the late

Babu Ramgopal Ghosh to get them punished. And such occurrences are not rare. While conducting survey operations railway officers in many cases plant pins within people's inner apartment, and sometimes even within the rooms allotted to the household god, and are thus able to extort a good deal of money. It is not known whether any such thing took place at Durgapur. The *Englishman*, with his usual impartiality, is for laying all the blame at the door of the villagers. And the *Englishman*, it should be remembered, showed a similar spirit of impartiality in commenting on the Triveni affair referred to above.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

12. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 12th June, says that in a recent trial of a dacoity case in the 24-Parganas, the Sessions Judge acquitted the culprits, because the evidence against them was not convincing. But it will be difficult to put down *baddmashes*, if in every such case convincing proof of guilt is required before conviction.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
June 12th, 1893.

13. The *Sahachar* of the 14th June has the following:—
The witness circular. Sir Charles Elliott has denied the existence of the circular under which defendants in criminal cases should not produce more than five witnesses. The circular, in question, exists nevertheless, and is being acted upon. Government has already brought discredit on itself by its criminal administration. The writer does not wish to make any noise in the matter. But unless the objectionable circular is withdrawn, the public will be compelled to bring the matter to the notice of Parliament.

SAHACHAR,
June 14th, 1893.

14. The *Hitavadi* of the 15th June, complains that oppressions by European soldiers remain unchecked on account of the leniency with which English Magistrates try these cases. The accused are generally let off unpunished or very slightly punished. So if Government does nothing to correct this state of things, the consequences will be very serious. Here is another instance of such oppression.

HITAVADI,
June 15th, 1893.

An old milkman of Barrackpore was going to the pound to take out his cow, when he was attacked and beaten by the European Bazar Sergeant of the place and another soldier, both of whom were under the influence of liquor. They made themselves merry at the old man's expense; but the result was so serious for the poor fellow that he had to remain for more than a month in hospital, where one night his condition was so precarious that an Honorary Magistrate had to be sent for to record his dying declarations. Fortunately, the man recovered. The accused were tried before the District Magistrate of Alipore, who sentenced the Sergeant and the soldier to fines of Rs. 30 and Rs. 10 respectively. The result of the trial is indeed astonishing. In the Magistrate's opinion the beating was only *accidental*!

Is the death of the Benares punkha-puller at the hands of a soldier of the West Yorkshire Regiment also to be attributed to accident?

15. The *Sanjivani* of the 17th June, says that though Captain Currie, Private Secretary to Sir Charles Elliott, contradicted the statement made in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* that the promotion of Deputy Magistrates depends on the percentage of police cases in which they convict the accused, the Barisal correspondent of the *Patrika* writes to say that the Magistrate of Barisal actually issued to his Deputies a circular requiring them to try their best to secure the conviction of the accused in cases of breaches of the public peace sent up by the police, and that as the result of this circular, 3,338 persons were compelled in one year to give recognisances for maintaining the peace. The Deputy Magistrate, Babu Purna Chandra Gupta, made mention of this circular in his judgment in the case in which Nawab Ali, gumashta, and others were defendants, and which was instituted on the 23rd June 1890. The fact of this circular was brought to the notice of the High Court by the District Judge, Mr. Staley, and the High Court administered a rebuke to the Magistrate for having issued it, though Government did not take the Magistrate to task at all for it, but rather punished the Deputy Magistrate by transferring him to a bad district for having divulged a secret.

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

There may be this truth in Captain Currie's letter that no circular was ever issued to Deputy Magistrates from the Secretariat laying down the conditions of their promotion; but there can be no doubt now that such circulars are issued by the Magistrates. It is said that the same rule of promotion also obtains in the lower police service. This is a premium held out to the police to become more corrupt and oppressive than they usually are.

The Magistrate of Barisal was not content with simply instructing his Deputies to secure convictions in cases of breaches of the peace, he also instructed them to deal out corporal punishment as much as possible. And as the correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* also states that the Inspector-General of Police referred to this order of the Magistrate at page 56 of his Administration Report for 1891, there can be no doubt that the Lieutenant-Governor knows of it. But has he taken any steps in regard to the Magistrate who issued it?

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

16. The same paper complains of the expenses of litigation, especially to petty litigants, and says that from a comparison of the income and expenditure of the law courts, it will appear convincingly that Government dispenses law and justice for lucre, that, in fact, it sells justice. The writer therefore makes the following suggestions, chiefly in the interest of poor and small suitors:—

The expenses of law-suits.

- (1) The plaints in suits valued at twenty rupees or less should be allowed to be written on unstamped paper.
- (2) The court-fee should be reduced in claims more than twenty rupees in value.
- (3) In suits valued at one hundred rupees or less, summonses should be served on defendants and witnesses through the post office, the certificates of post masters and post peons being considered sufficient evidence of service.
- (4) The number of judicial officers should be increased with a view to the speedy disposal of suits.
- (5) Copies should be allowed to be taken on plain paper. The present charge of annas 3 per folio is too high.
- (6) Special care ought to be taken to prevent the court amla from exacting blackmail from parties to suits, and touters should be excluded from court premises.

Government, which is always kind to its subjects, ought to take these suggestions into its consideration, and also to consider such other means of reducing the expenses of law-suits as may suggest themselves to it.

SANJIVANI.

17. The same paper says that, in June last year, one Khobar Ahain, a

A trial by the Extra Assistant Commissioner of Golaghat in Assam.

resident of Maujá Kákabhanga, in the Golaghat sub-division of the Sibsagar district in Assam, brought an action against Mr. Clark, Assistant Manager of the Mahimá tea-garden in the same Maujá, saying that Mr. Clark and his muharrir Mahirám had set fire to his house on account of a grudge which one Bhakatram, another muharrir under Mr. Clark, bore towards the complainant's brother. The four witnesses produced by the complainant swore that they were eye-witnesses of the burning down of the hut, and of Mr. Clark's presence there, and though their statements were not at all conflicting, Babu Jay Chandra Mitra, the Extra Assistant Commissioner of Golaghat, who tried the case, disbelieved their evidence on the ground set forth by him in the following extract:—

"The story that Mr. Clark and his muharrir set fire to the *goorghar* at first, and then to Khobar's dwelling-house is absolutely false. I can never persuade myself to believe that Mr. Clark set or caused to set fire on a house in retaliation of injury done to his person. Such an idea is foreign to an enlightened mind, and there is absolutely no reason for it."

The Extra Assistant Commissioner ought to have remembered that it was no part of his duty or business to try the case, or to ascertain the truth or otherwise of the evidence, in the light of his own individual ideas or impressions. And granting that he could do this, the particular idea by which he allowed himself to be swayed in this instance was certainly one of the most wonderful that could be conceived. America is not certainly behind any other country on the face of the globe in enlightenment, but has not the Extra

Assistant Commissioner ever heard of the American "Lynch Law"? If he had, he would not certainly have spoken of the idea of a European gentleman's setting fire to a house as an idea which is foreign to an enlightened mind. Has not the Extra Assistant Commissioner ever read the Indigo Commission's report, in which evidence of the burning down of raiyats' houses by European indigo-planters is not at all wanting? And has he not even heard of the conviction and punishment of tea-planters for the offence of stripping female coolies of their clothes, and then whipping them on their buttocks? If so, how could he consider the idea of a European setting fire to a house as an idea which is foreign to an enlightened mind? And though he has acted under such an idea as this, he has not been satisfied with dismissing the charge against Mr. Clark, but has convicted Khobar of the offence of having brought a false charge, and sentenced him to three and a half years' imprisonment. The papers relating to Khobar's conviction are not before the writer, and he is therefore unable to say whether Khobar has been rightly convicted and punished. But he has near him the papers of the original case, and he can on no account believe that the witnesses for the prosecution spoke falsely. On the other hand, not even the evidence given by Mr. Shaw, the manager of the garden, who was examined on behalf of the defence, can be considered trustworthy. Mr. Shaw said that he heard that Mr. Clark had been beaten, and on hearing this he at once left for the house of Khobar, that he met Mr. Clark on the way, bringing with him a spade, which Mr. Clark showed to him, saying that as the Ahains had attacked him, and the spade was in the hands of one of them, he had taken it away. Mr. Shaw said nothing about the reason of his visiting Khobar's house after this meeting with Mr. Clark, nor did the Extra Assistant Commissioner ask him why he visited it. However that be, it is on record that on arriving at Khobar's house Mr. Shaw found his *goorghar* still burning, and Khobar's father told him that Mr. Clark had set the room on fire and destroyed a good many articles. Mr. Shaw asked them to show him the remains of the articles which had been destroyed, but this they could not do, though they searched for some time among the ashes. What they showed him was a quantity of burnt *goor* (molasses) and three *karais* (boiling pots or kettles). He did not observe which part of which room was burnt. He was sure that he saw Khobar's dwelling-house unburnt. The house could be seen from the road. But he added that when he visited the spot on a later date with the police daroga he saw a part of the room burnt, the condition of the room clearly proving that the fire had been put down as soon as it broke out. In cross examination, he admitted that he had advised Mr. Clark to bring an action. He gave this advice after inspecting Khobar's house. He admitted that ill-feeling existed between the complainant's brother and Bhakatram, though he assigned a different reason for it from that assigned by the complainant and his witnesses.

Thus even Mr. Shaw admitted that Khobar's *goorghar* was burnt down. But how the fire broke out, neither Mr. Shaw nor any of the witnesses examined by the Extra Assistant Commissioner himself could say. And still the worthy Assistant Commissioner surmised the cause of the fire to have been as follows:—

"Thinking that Mr. Clark would come back with a large number of men to retaliate, Khobar and others began to remove the *goor*-making utensils in a hurry. In this hurried attempt some boiled *goor* fell into the fire, and it immediately burnt like kerosine oil, and the roof of the *goorghar* soon caught fire, and the house was quickly burnt."

Considering the fertility of his imagination, there can be little doubt that if, instead of remaining in hiding in the forests of Assam, Babu Joychandra had devoted himself to the service of the Muses, the poet's laurel would have been his for certain.

Mr. Shaw said that on the first day he saw Khobar's house only from the road, but the medical man attached to the garden deposed to his having gone into Khobar's house on the first occasion. Another witness deposed to the effect that both Mr. Clark and Mr. Shaw had gone into the house. The question now is, why did the gentlemen enter into Khobar's house, if Khobar told them nothing about a fire. And it is also a question whether it is Messrs. Shaw and Clark who are to be believed, or the doctor and the other witness. Mr. Shaw laid great stress on the fact that neither Mr. Clark nor his *muharrir* had matches with him, though no one asked him any question on this point. Mr. Shaw said:—

"I can swear that Mr. Clark had no matches on his person, nor he never carries any. I am perfectly sure that Mahiram had not any. I make this statement voluntarily." The writer cannot understand how Mr. Shaw could be so sure or positive on this point, unless it be that he had immediately, after the occurrence, inspected the persons of both Mr. Clark and Mahiram with the special object of ascertaining whether they had matches with them or not. And the meaning of this must be that some one must have complained to Mr. Shaw of Mr. Clark's setting fire to the house. There is thus good ground for thinking that Mr. Shaw's evidence was not trustworthy. Yet the Extra Assistant Commissioner has believed his evidence and the evidence of some employes of the tea-garden, and has not only dismissed Khobar's case, but inflicted a heavy punishment on Khobar.

The Chief Commissioner of Assam is requested to send for the papers of both the cases, and release the innocent man from imprisonment.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 19th, 1893.

18. The Santipur correspondent of the *Somprakash* of the 19th June

The Santipur Honorary Bench.

complains that, among the Honorary Magistrates of that place, there are two or three who, on account

of their age and infirmities, are quite unfit for any responsible work. These old gentlemen often doze over the cases, and retire now and then to smoke. And so, without hearing cases properly, they give their decisions. They are not bad men. At one time they held respectable posts under Government; but age has now deprived them of their energy and capacity for work. There are many respectable and educated young men in the place who may be advantageously put in the place of these infirm gentlemen. It is hoped that the District Magistrate and the Presidency Commissioner will pay some attention to this matter.

(c)—Jails.

19. The *Sanjivani* of the 17th June has the following observations on the subject of the reformatory schools:—

The reformatory schools.

(1) Government has expressed a desire to introduce caste occupations for the boys in the Alipore school; but having regard to the diversity of such occupations in Bengal, the project is not likely to be a perfect success.

2. The writer has been astounded at the inadequacy of the punishments inflicted on the warders through whose neglect a boy in the Hazaribagh Reformatory was killed by being drowned in a well.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 19th, 1893.

20. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 19th June says that most of the juvenile

Reformatory education.

offenders trained in the reformatories do not make use, on their leaving those institutions, of the indus-

tries they learn there, and thus the education they receive as juvenile convicts is practically of little use to them. Government says that this is owing to the caste system which requires every man to follow the peculiar occupation of his own caste and no other. Government is right, and it should remove this defect in reformatory education by teaching every juvenile prisoner the proper occupation of his own caste.

(d)—Education.

21. The *Sansodhini* of the 28th April says that the grossest jobbery pre-

Jobbery in the Education Department.

vails in the Education Department in the matter of the selection of text-books and prize-books, in the selection of examiners, and in the giving away of

appointments. The writer knows of one instance in which, though a District Board purchased prize-books for pathsalas directly from an author, an employe of the Board and a favourite of the members exacted commission from the author.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 13th, 1893.

22. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 13th June writes as follows:—

A proposed municipal college in Burdwan.

The Municipal Commissioners of Burdwan have resolved at a meeting to convert the local municipal school into a college, and have applied to the Syndicate of the Calcutta University for the requisite permission. Now, there is already a College at Burdwan maintained by the Maharaja, possessing an efficient staff of teachers, and containing all the necessary teaching appliances.

The College is showing good results, and is passing 40 to 50 students at the F.A. examination every year. This being the case it is not easy to see why the Commissioners are bent on converting this school into a College. It is said that the cost of maintaining the proposed College will be nominal. The Revd.

Mr. Santer has consented to teach English gratis one hour every day, if he is permitted to teach the Bible half an hour daily. In the same way, the Engineer-elect of the Municipality, and the Pandit correcting proofs in the municipal press have consented to teach mathematics and Sanskrit, respectively, free of charge. But how long will it be possible to maintain a College with a set of unpaid men? The public, moreover, will object to the teaching of the Bible in the projected College.

Again, municipal work will suffer if some of the officers of the Municipality are allowed to teach in the College. The Commissioners have much to do in the sphere of their own legitimate work—they have yet to improve the drainage system of the town and the quality of its filtered water. But instead of paying their attention to such matters they are now bothering their heads about a new College! Many of the Commissioners, who were present at the meeting at which the College resolution was passed, do not know English and have not even the remotest idea of what a College is. The conduct of the Commissioners in this matter has astonished the writer.

23. The *Education Gazette* of the 16th June supports the action of the meeting recently held in the Albert Hall to protest against the new affiliation rules of the Calcutta

The new affiliation rules.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
June 16th, 1893.

University and writes to the following effect:—

The Calcutta University is only an examining body, and yet the Syndicate has passed rules which an examining body should have nothing to do with. To enquire about the rate of fees in a school or the sources of its income, to limit the expenditure of a school, to take guarantees from the proprietors of schools or colleges, to make an affiliation subject to renewal every five years—these are matters with which the University has no right to deal. They fall within the province of the Director of Public Instruction. 'Affiliation' means, in plain language, conferring on any school or college the privilege of sending up candidates for the University examinations, and 'dis-affiliation' means the withdrawal of this privilege. And when a candidate can appear at any University examination in the capacity of a private student and only on the strength of a character certificate, why make such hard-and-fast rules regarding the affiliation of schools?

The Syndicate has ruled that no class should contain more than 50 boys. This rule, if carried into effect, will seriously injure the interests of many institutions.

The lower classes of schools have generally more boys than the higher classes, and as the salaries of the lower teachers are comparatively small, the income from these classes goes to support the higher classes. But it will not be so if the number of students in the lower forms falls off in consequence of the proposed rule. And then the income as well as the management of a school will suffer.

The Syndicate is wrong in thinking that one teacher cannot properly manage a class with more than 50 boys. All teachers are not equally able and painstaking. And good teaching depends not so much on the number of boys in a class, as on the ability of the teacher in charge of that class. This limitation of the number of students will only discourage diligence and energetic work in the teachers; and in the hands of lukewarm teachers the interests of the boys will be sure to suffer.

The writer approves of the other rules framed by the University, especially the one which provides that before any school or college is affiliated, the Syndicate should see whether or not any neighbouring institution will suffer by its affiliation.

24. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 22nd June takes exception to the changes recently introduced in the vernacular and middle

The vernacular and middle English examinations.

English examinations. The Bengal Government has ordered that candidates failing to secure one-fourth of the allotted marks in the above examinations shall forfeit all claims to scholarships, and to pass the examinations, the candidates will be required to

SULABH DAINIK,
June 22nd, 1893.

get more than twenty per cent. marks in every subject. Such strictness in such examinations is likely to diminish the number of candidates, which is already much less than what it used to be in former years. Moreover, the candidates who appear at these examinations are boys of a very tender age who have to read text-books larger in number and variety than those which are prescribed for the Entrance candidates.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SANSODHINI,
April 28th, 1893.

25. The *Sansodhini* of the 28th April complains of the practice obtaining among Chittagong boatmen of taking too many men on their boats. The evil of this practice was made patent on the evening of the 22nd April last, when a boat, belonging to one Giris Majhi, sunk in the middle of the river Karnaphuli with its 28 passengers. Had it not been for the pluck of a man who stood on the bank and immediately took out a boat for the rescue of the wrecked, all the 28 passengers would have been drowned. The authorities should at once enforce a rule restricting the number of passengers to be taken in a boat.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 13th, 1893.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 13th June takes exception to the proposal of the Benares Municipality to levy a tax on every pilgrim coming into the city. A tax of this kind has been nowhere imposed by Government, and Government should not allow the Benares Municipality to impose it within its jurisdiction. A rule prohibiting pilgrims from entering Benares without paying the tax will cause great hardship to the poor among them, many of whom have to earn by begging the money which is needed to make a journey to the sacred place.

SAHACHAR,
June 14th, 1893.

27. The *Sahachar* of the 14th June approves of the resolution of the Calcutta Municipality to dismiss a number of its employes. The Municipal office has become a nest of idle people. Three-fourths of the Municipal Inspectors and Overseers ought to be dismissed. The municipal peons are reported to take bribes, and people can build houses, &c., in violation of municipal rules by bribing these peons. This matter should be enquired into, and the account books of the milkmen of the town should be examined for the purpose of this enquiry.

BANKURA DARPAN,
June 15th, 1893.

28. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 15th June says that the publication of the revised assessment list by the municipal authorities of Sonamukhi during this time of scarcity has caused serious discontent in that place. The revised list savours of party spirit, and the taxes of some of the ratepayers have been increased to thrice or four times their former amounts. It is hoped that the Sub-divisional Officer of Bishnupur and the Municipal Commissioners will reconsider the matter.

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

29. The *Sanjivani* of the 17th June says that the Albert Victor Memorial Committee, who undertook to consider the question of the removal of the Amherst Street Leper Asylum in Calcutta to a less populated quarter of the town, having hitherto done nothing in that direction, the residents of Ward No. 4 lately convened a meeting to memorialise the Government, the Calcutta Municipality and the Albert Victor Memorial Committee on the advisability of a prompt removal of the asylum. The meeting was largely and influentially attended. Considering the dread with which people look upon the asylum from a sanitary point of view, there can be no question about the desirability of removing the asylum from its present site.

CHARUVARTA,
June 12th, 1893.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*
30. Correspondents writing in the *Charuvarta* of the 12th June from Jamalpur in the Mymensingh district, complain of want of good roads in Krishnapur and the adjoining villages in that district.

CHARUVARTA.

(h)—*General.*
31. The *Charuvarta* of the 12th June refers to the rumour that the jurisdiction of the Bádla thana will be incorporated in the Kishoreganj subdivision, and remarks that the proposed transfer will probably lead to a

reduction of the number of munsifs maintained at Bádlá from three to two, though it is sure that two munsifs will find the work a little too heavy for them. The writer thinks that it would be best to extend the jurisdiction of the Kishoreganj subdivision along the river Dámiyá only from Netrakona on the north to Kishoreganj on the south.

32. The *Sahachar* of the 14th June takes exception to the proposal of the Bengal Government to levy a sanitation tax.

SAHACHAR,
June 14th, 1893.

A sanitation tax in Bengal. Like quacks who must have different medicines to meet different symptoms of the same disease, the Civilian rulers of this country must have different taxes for different purposes. But good rulers never multiply taxes unnecessarily. With them, the resources of a few taxes are enough to meet all the wants of the body politic. When the road-cess was first imposed, the Duke of Argyll said that the income from this tax would be applied to the furtherance of all local purposes, and the surplus, after meeting every local want, should be spent on sanitation work. But Sir Charles Elliott has spent the proceeds of this tax in famine relief. Again, the roads which ought to be repaired with Government money are often repaired with road-cess money. Municipal funds are also similarly misappropriated and misapplied. It is hoped that when the new Bengal Council meets, the members, native as well as European, will call for an account of the proceeds of the tax. And before a new tax like the one proposed is imposed, it will have to be ascertained whether or not the existing taxes are sufficient for all purposes. The interest of sanitation in this country requires that all drainage channels should be kept open. And if drainage is found to have been obstructed by railways and Government roads, Government and the Railway Companies should be required to pay for the removal of the obstruction. Silted rivers should be re-excavated with public money. Government takes taxes, and it is its interest to keep the channels for internal trade open. The time has certainly come for improving the sanitation of the malaria-stricken tracts; but no new tax is necessary for effecting the improvement.

33. The *Bangavasi* of the 17th June complains that the people of Jaunbazar in the Birbhum district are greatly inconvenienced for want of a post office. The matter

BANGAVASI,
June 17th, 1893.

A postal complaint. was represented to the postal authorities, but they seem to have taken no notice of it.

34. The *Sanjivani* of the 17th June says that it has been proved before the Committee which is sitting to enquire into the working of the Parliamentary resolution on the Contagious Diseases Act, that the spirit of the resolution has been violated in the Indian cantonments, though neither with the knowledge or sanction of the Viceroy, nor with that of the military authorities. But was it not the duty of the Government of India or of the military authorities to take notice of such a transgression of a Parliamentary resolution? How can then the Viceroy or his military advisers be completely exonerated from blame? And if they are exonerated, who is to be found fault with for the violation?

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

35. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 17th June considers it probable that on the meeting of the reconstituted Bengal Council, the question relating to the sanitary improvement of mufassal areas will be discussed, and a proposal for the imposition of a sanitation tax will be introduced. There is no doubt, however, that in the present deplorable and over-taxed condition of the people, any new impost will be too great a hardship to them. Sir A. P. MacDonnell is said to have made very nice arrangements for improving the sanitation of the Central Provinces at a moderate cost to Government, and without imposing any new burden on the people. And it is hoped that His Honour will look to the interests of his new subjects when the question of sanitation comes up for discussion.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 17th, 1893.

36. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 21st June has the following:—
The coinage question in India. Mr. Mackay and his party believe that the free coinage of silver in the Indian mints will be stopped even before the report of the Herschell Committee is placed before Parliament. But the writer still hopes that Government will not take any sudden action in the matter, the more so as the measures that it may take are liable to be upset by a possibly adverse decision of Parliament on the

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 21st, 1893.

subject. Government should therefore wait until the opinion of the House on the Committee's report is known. The *Englishman* says that in France a depreciated silver currency was met by putting a stop to the free coinage of silver. Government then gradually prolonged the time for granting receipts for silver bullion brought by private parties to the mints for coinage, and then put a stop to the practice of coining private silver altogether. This was followed by a considerable rise of the silver currency, and the same thing may happen here if the same remedy is applied. But the *Englishman* forgets that there can be no comparison between France and India. The population of France is 3 crores, while that of India is 30 crores. There was a gold currency in France even when the coinage of silver was restricted by closing the mints against private persons. Again, there are in France gold coins worth Rs. 46, and silver coins worth Rs. 36 per head of population, while in India there are no gold coins at all, and silver coins worth only Rs. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ per head of population. This shows that even now India does not possess a superfluous amount of silver coins, and that a restriction of her currency by the closing of her mints to private coinage will give rise to serious trouble and inconvenience. Already 200 crores of rupees are in circulation in India, but even this amount is not sufficient for all purposes, and merchants and other people are at times put to difficulty on account of ready money. Moreover, a stoppage of the free coinage of silver will raise the value of coined silver and decrease that of the uncoined metal. This unnatural state of things will not (for it cannot) last long, and the value of coined silver will fall in the long run, in the same way as it has fallen in France and England, in which latter country the value of the shilling has fallen from 12 to 7 pennies. The *Englishman* has also compared India with Java in the matter of currency. That this comparison is unwarrantable is clear from two considerations. Java has no separate silver currency of its own, her currency being the same as that of Holland, and freely inter-changeable with it; in the second place, there are no mints in Java, all its currency being supplied from Holland. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the restriction of a free coining of silver in India will be followed by disastrous consequences.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

DARUSSALTANAT AND
URDU GUIDE,
June 12th, 1893.

BANGAVASI,
June 17th, 1893.

37. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 12th June expresses a warm approval of the appointment of Maulvi Abdul Jubbar to the Bengal Council.

38. The *Bangavasi* of the 17th June has the following:—

Native merchants in the Bengal Council. The Bengal National Chamber of Commerce had petitioned the Bengal Government for the privilege of representation in the Bengal Council.

But the Government's reply has been extremely disheartening to the native merchants, for Government has refused to recognise them as real merchants, manufacturers, or traders. It is to be regretted that such a reply has been given, specially when Government might well have spared the feelings of so many of its rich, respectable and loyal subjects. But the writer thinks, notwithstanding, that there is truth in the Government's reply. For is it not true that the native merchants and traders possess no claim to be recognised as real merchants and traders when the country has not a single manufacture of its own, and when the sole business of the country's own merchants and traders is to bring into it worthless articles of luxury in exchange for the food-grains which form its very life and blood? The native merchants to compare themselves with English merchants! What an idea! A worm comparing itself with an elephant! They must be in a frightful plight, indeed, who though conscious every moment of the almost unbounded power and resources of the British merchants, can dare to compare themselves with the latter. Ah! to compare native merchants with those merchants of the British race who can by one nod of theirs create and enforce millions of factory laws, who can, by one beck with their hand, establish or abolish thousands of customs duties, and for whose benefit India is being every moment intersected from one extremity to the other with canals and railways! Alas! to compare native merchants with those from whose very glances issue darts of fire, whose mere winking gives birth to the clapping thunder, at whose bare word meteors

fall, and whose actions are comet-like, erratic in their results! Compare native merchants with such men as these, oh!

The native merchants may, if they like, ask for the privilege of recommending a member; but in demanding this privilege, they must not appear as being the promoters of their country's material welfare. The writer does not really see anything in the harsh but frank reply of Government which can wound the feelings of the native merchants. No, it is not the reply which should wound the feelings of the native merchants, it is their own vanity in considering themselves merchants, of which they should feel ashamed. It is the English, the French, the Germans, the Austrians, and even the insignificant people of that insignificant country, Holland, and not the Indians, who have a right to be called *merchants*.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

39. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 19th June has heard it said that the Gaekwar of Baroda has been mildly reprimanded by the Indian authorities in England for his frequent visits to that country. It appears, therefore, that the authorities in England do not like frequent English visits by Indian princes. These visits are no doubt to be discouraged where they interfere with the performance of the Princes' duties towards their subjects; but the writer does not see why such visits should alarm the Government, and Indian princes should not be allowed to pay occasional visits to England, which will enable them to acquire a varied knowledge and experience of the world, and to see their own inferiority in marked relief in the presence of the enlightenment and scientific progress of Europe.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 19th, 1893.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

40. The *Bangavasi* of the 17th June says that, according to the *Dacca Prakash*, two Christians, two Muhammadans and a Hindu, residents of thana Nawabganj in the Dacca district, committed suicide owing to distress caused by scarcity. The Hindu and Muhammadan deaths may not move the authorities, but will they remain indifferent after hearing of the death of two Christians?

BANGAVASI,
June 17th, 1893.

41. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 17th June says that the late cyclone has done incalculable damage in Bagnán, in the Ulubaria sub-division of the Howrah district, pulling down houses and huts and destroying the coconut trees, betel plants and bamboo topes, which form the people's chief means of livelihood. The magnitude of the distress thus occasioned will not be realised without taking due note of the fact that for some years past the people have gathered very poor harvests, owing to the closing of the canal which flowed from the Mahisrakha ferry-ghat, past the house of Babu Charu Chandra Ghosh of Chandrapur, to Bagnan or Ghoraghata. The closing of this canal has greatly affected the fertility of the lands lying along its banks, and brought on a severe water scarcity among the people. The condition of the people under the combined effects of bad harvests and the cyclone is so distressing that, if prompt steps are not taken to alleviate it, a severe famine will appear among them. The District and Local Boards cannot be expected to render them any help by undertaking relief operations, as there are, it is said, no funds at their disposal for the purpose. The only hope of the distressed people lies in Government's allowing them to irrigate their fields, this year at least, with water from the Damodar. The conduct of the police towards the men who cut the Damodar embankment last year for purposes of irrigation has so much frightened these people that they fear even to make any representation to Government on the subject. It is hoped that the District Magistrate of Howrah will direct his attention to the matter.

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

42. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 13th June says that both the Government and the people of India will benefit by the enforcement of the recent resolution of the House of

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 13th, 1893.

Commons relating to the holding of the Civil Service Examination simultaneously in England and India. One effect of this arrangement will be the appointment, on a larger scale, of the natives of the country to high posts under Government, and this will prove advantageous to Government in two ways. In the first place, as it will not be necessary to pay Native Civil Servants at the high rate at which European Civil Servants are paid, there will be much saving of money to Government in these days of financial embarrassment. In the second place, the appointment of natives to high posts will reflect credit on the Government, and also strengthen the foundations of British rule in India.

SAHACHAR,
June 14th, 1892.

43. The *Sahachar* of the 14th June has the following:—

The *Pioneer* on the Civil Service resolution.

The *Pioneer* is again playing its old tricks. According to this prophet of Allahabad, the Civil Service resolution has greatly alarmed Mussulmans, and, in a special degree, all those who consider a Bengali monopoly of the service a source of danger, and that a memorial protesting against the resolution is being, therefore, talked of. A trick of this kind was found successful against the Congress movement. The old Syed Ahmed is an honest man, but unable to see through the *Pioneer's* trick, he became an enemy of the Congress. But the old man now sees that the same *Pioneer*, which once professed so much friendship for him, has turned upon him and his son, Mr. Justice Mahmud. No one will therefore be duped by the *Pioneer's* new dodge. Does that paper consider the Muhammadans to be such fools that they will, even after the introduction of the elective principle in the Legislative Councils, injure their own interests by protesting against this Civil Service resolution? Will Muhammadans gain nothing if the Civil Service Examination is held in India? Want of means has hitherto prevented them from competing at that examination in England, and not a single Mussulman has, therefore, yet become a Civil Servant. But if the Civil Service Examination is held in India, many Muhammadan youths will be able to compete. A Civil Service Examination will also be an advantage to those Anglo-Indians who cannot afford to send their sons to England for education. Why then talk of the resolution as being specially favourable to Bengali interests? And are there not among the Native Civil Servants men of other Indian provinces than Bengal? But even if the Native Civil Service had consisted wholly of Bengali Hindus, the Muhammadans would not certainly have found it in their heart to say—'we cannot enter the Civil Service, so let us try to prevent Bengalis from entering it.' The dog in the fable would neither himself eat grass nor let the ox eat it. But perverseness of this kind is unknown to the people of this country. The Hindus of Bengal rejoiced over Nawab Amir Hossein's appointment to the post of Inspector-General of Registration, but the *Pioneer* is elated at the prospect of the Mussulmans expressing dissatisfaction with the Civil Service resolution, on the ground that it will prove advantageous to the Bengal Hindus! It is certain, however, to be disappointed, for after its attack on Mr. Justice Mahmud, all its tricks have been found out, and no one will be deceived by them. All India will, in fact, come to an unanimity over the Civil Service question, and even the European community will, on reflection, embrace the popular cause.

44. The same paper has the following on the same subject:—

The Anglo-Indian press on the Civil Service resolution.

As soon as the news of the success of Mr. Paul's motion reached this country, the *Indian Daily News* remarked:—Mr. Gladstone will probably look to the Viceroy for help with the object of escaping from the difficulty. Now, as that newspaper is now the property of a certain number of high European officials, who are also among its writers, the above remark must have been written with a meaning. And Mr. Gladstone's subsequent statement in the House that he has asked the opinion of the Government of India on the subject, proves that paper's surmise to have been a correct one. According to the *Englishman*, an old Parliamentary hand like Mr. Gladstone will be able to devise a way out of the difficulty. But if he really does devise any such thing, he will mar his reputation extending over a whole lifetime. There is, however, very little likelihood of Mr. Gladstone acting in the manner suggested. So far as the writer can judge his character, he will not fall into the hands of an Indian clique. Of course contravening an order of Parliament may not be very reprehensible in the eyes of men who do not hesitate to call the Queen's

SAHACHAR.

Proclamation a mere expression of ordinary courtesy. But, considering the present condition of India, it will not be very easy to contravene the order of Parliament in the present case. Much now depends on Lord Lansdowne. He has hitherto given himself up completely to his Ministers and Secretaries to be moulded by them at pleasure like a lump of clay. And he has in this way lost many opportunities of winning an undying name. But God has given him yet another opportunity, and His Excellency can, if he only acts on his own judgment, still make his name illustrious. It is in the power of the Viceroy to indirectly nullify the Civil Service resolution. His Excellency can, for instance, make the privilege of appearing at the Indian Civil Service Examination depend on a course of two years' preliminary study in some English school. But then Lord Lansdowne will, as the writer hopes, admit that he has a duty to discharge by the people of this country.

45. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 15th June complains that the officers of the cooly depôts in and about Ryepur in the Bankura district are greatly oppressing the poor women of the place. They secure these women either by false temptations or by force, and then send them to the tea-gardens as coolies.

BANKURA DARPAN,
June 15th, 1893.

46. The *Pratihar* of the 15th June says that her Highness Nawab Raisunnissa Begum Saheba of Murshidabad has died full of years, and all Murshidabad is mourning her loss.

PRATIKAR,
June 16th, 1893.

The late Begum Saheba of Murshidabad. The death of this lady will save Government a lakh of rupees a year, and it is hoped that in consideration of this saving, Government will settle small pensions, according to rank, on her old employés, who are anxiously awaiting the orders of Government. The heirs of the Begum Saheba, too, are waiting to see what arrangement Government makes in regard to the property which she has left.

47. The *Bangavasi* of the 17th June says that though Indian princes were the principal contributors to the funds of the Imperial Institute just opened with so much *éclat* in London, those among them who were present at the opening ceremony had to pay for their seats like other visitors. This news has deeply hurt Indian feeling, seeing that Her Majesty herself and the Prince of Wales are the chief promoters of the Institute. That a ceremony in which the Empress and the Prince themselves took part was made an occasion for money-making, is an idea utterly revolting to the Indian mind. Alas, that even after so long a rule, the English rulers should be unable to read the feelings of their Indian subjects!

BANGAVASI,
June 17th, 1893.

48. The *Sanjivani* of the 17th June says that the gathering which assembled at Darjeeling to welcome Sir Antony MacDonnell was an 'unprecedentedly large one. That this was so, is probably because people expect to enjoy during Sir Antony's brief rule some respite from the turmoil into which the country was thrown under Sir Charles' administration. But it remains to be seen whether Sir Antony will fulfil his subjects' expectations.

SANJIVANI,
June 17th, 1893.

49. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Jaynagar—Majilpur in the 24-Parganas district, says that two women Revati and Sáradá, residents of the village Khodarpah, within the Jaynagar Municipality, have been deceitfully recruited as coolies by Lakshman Ghosh and Nivaran Ghosh of Jaynagar. They were enticed away by a woman, a relative of Lakshman's, who promised to procure for them employment as nurse on a salary of Rs. 4 per month with free board and lodging, or some other employment. The women were then sent away as registered coolies. A few days after, when the people of the village came to suspect foul play, they taxed the recruiter about the fate of the women. But the two men put on a bold front, and defied the villagers to do them any harm in their power for what they had done with the women. Of the two women decoyed by them, Revati is the widow of one Rai Charan Kaora. She is thirty years of age, and has two sons and a daughter, who have been left behind. The other, Sarada, is the wife of one Akshay Kaora, and is about seventeen or eighteen years of age.

SANJIVANI.

Some days after the disappearance of these two women, one Karik and his daughter, about 12 or 13 years of age, also disappeared from the village and

have not been heard of since. It is suspected that they too have been sent away as coolies.

It is also said that a certain inhabitant of Jaynagar has been tempting the cultivators residing in Baharau, with a view to their recruitment as coolies, but has been defeated in his object. The Jaynagar police was informed about these deceitful recruitments and attempts at recruitment, but it has made no enquiries.

The editor is surprised that *arkatis* are being thus allowed to extend their operations from Chota Nagpur, the Sonthal Parganas, and Bihar to the very district of the 24-Parganas. The severe distress in the 24-Parganas during the last few years has given *arkatis* an excellent opportunity for plying their trade in this district. It is hoped that Government will not remain indifferent when such deceits as these are being perpetrated within a few miles of the metropolis.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 18th, 1893.

50. In the *Dacca Prakash* of the 18th June, a correspondent from Nawabganj thus writes about the ravages of malaria in certain tracts within the Dacca district.

Malaria in the Dacca district.

The want of pure drinking water is greatly felt in Jafarganj and Harirampur, and the villages within the jurisdiction of the Nawabgunge thana. The Ichhamati, a small tributary of the Dhaleswari, which supplies these villages with drinking water, dries up at its source in the month of November, and its water therefore stagnates and becomes unfit for drinking purposes. This is the principal cause of the outbreak of malaria in these villages.

The writer visited Harirampur in March last, and found the village fearfully decimated by malaria. Malaria was then doing terrible havoc in the villages of Ajimnagar, Sutanari, Kharia, Patgram, and about twenty others. Pure water cannot be had in any of these villages. Tanks or wells there are not many, and their water is not wholesome. On the other side of the river lie the villages of Sonabaju, Jaykrishnapur, Shikaripara, Baruakhali and others, which too do not fare better. In the month of May, the surface of the river becomes covered with a thin film of weeds; and no alternative is left to the villagers except to drink this filthy water.

In November the river becomes stagnant, and the villagers throw heaps of twigs and branches of trees into it here and there in order to catch fish. Hemp is also steeped in this river. All these causes combine to make the water perfectly noxious, and the villagers die of malaria by drinking this bad water.

In Harirampur and its neighbouring villages, the writer saw many families utterly destroyed by malaria, some of them having only one or two survivors.

The writer then gives some figures to show that in the villages within the jurisdiction of Harirampur and Nawabgunge police-stations, 3,008 and 3,007 persons per mile, respectively, died of fever during the months of January and February alone!

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 19th, 1893.

51. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 19th June has heard with surprise that, in

Mr. Risley's connection with the *Indian Daily News*.

spite of a standing circular of Government, Mr. Risley is regularly contributing to the *Indian Daily News*, and is even supplying it with secret official information.

It is also said that Mr. Risley is one of the new proprietors of the paper. Are the circular referred to and the Official Secrets Act intended only for natives? It is hoped that the Government of India will enquire into the matter, and do what is needful.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 20th, 1893.

52. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 20th June thus criticises

The *Pioneer* on the Civil Service resolution.

the *Pioneer* newspaper's arguments against the Civil Service resolution:—

According to the *Pioneer*, if the Civil Service Examination is held in India, the Hindus of Bengal will monopolise all posts under Government, a few may fall to the share of Parsis and Mahrattas, but the Muhammadans, the Sikhs and the Rajputs will be for ever excluded from all higher appointments under Government. But this statement is absolutely worthless. Many Muhammadan youths are now defeating Hindu boys in intellectual combats; many of them have been to England and have come out as barristers. And the men who can pass the Barristership Examination, will not surely find it hard to pass the Civil Service Examination. It will be offering an insult to men like Mr. Justice Mahmud and Mr. Justice Amir Ali to say that they could not

have passed the Civil Service Examination. Again, the Sikhs and the Rajputs are in no way inferior to Bengalis in intelligence, and to cut the matter short, the youths of all the Indian provinces possess enough intellect to be able to pass the Civil Service test. Almost all Indians are Aryans, and the Bengalis are intelligent because they are Aryans. The *Pioneer* has tried to mislead the Muhammadans by referring to Sanskrit, which is one of the subjects for the Civil Service Examination. For if the Civil Service Examination is held in India, Persian and Arabic too, may, be made subjects for that examination. The *Pioneer's* next argument is that, if the Civil Service Examination is held in India, the Bengali Hindus will secure most success, and all the districts and divisions will therefore come to be placed under their charge, and that will dissatisfy all other Indian races. And not content with making this attempt to excite the civil population, the *Pioneer* has also tried to excite the sepoys, an offence for which it ought to be prosecuted. But Government which prosecuted the *Bangavasi* for nothing, will not dare to say anything to its favourite, the *Pioneer*. Be that as it may, as example is apt to become infectious, the *Pioneer* should not have talked of the sepoys in this connection in the way it has done. But to return to the point, Bengali youths have been for some years going to England and coming back as Civil Servants, and many of them have received charge of districts. But no untoward consequences like those which the *Pioneer* is talking about have followed from this practice. The appointment of Bengali Civilians to District Magistracies and other posts have given rise to no trouble, and led to no revolt among the sepoys. Again, if the Civil Service Examination comes to be held in India, it will not be difficult to make arrangements for it in a manner which will satisfy the aspirations of all sections of the Indian people. There are at present five Universities in India, and a rule may be made permitting only a certain number of the most successful graduates of each University to compete for the examination. An arrangement like this will prevent the Bengali Hindus from getting a monopoly of the Covenanted appointments. Again, though now the number of Bengalis in the Civil Service Examinations is already larger than that of any other Indian people, no objection is taken to them on that account. Why should then there be any objection to them on the score of their number when the Civil Service Examination shall come to be held in India?

According to the *Pioneer*, the holding of the Civil Service Examination in India will necessitate the holding of the same examination in Canada, Natal, Australia, Cape Colony and other places, for all these countries form parts of the British Empire, and their people have therefore a right to compete for the Indian Civil Service. There is, beyond doubt, no lunatic asylum in Allahabad, or the editor of the *Pioneer* would have been there before now. Canada, Australia, Natal and other countries have separate Civil Services of their own, and the people of those countries have never been known to be anxious to enter the Indian Civil Service. The Indian Civil Service Examination is being held in England for a very long time, but has any man from any of the British Colonies ever appeared at it? The Indians are asking this Government to hold the Civil Service Examination in India in order that they may enter the Civil Service of their own country. And such is the *Pioneer's* sense of justice that it is trying to place the people of the British Colonies on a par with the Indians. With anything like a true sense of justice, the *Pioneer* would have advocated the withdrawal of the right of the colonists, aye, of the English youths too to appear at the Civil Service Examination held in England. According to the *Pioneer*, Civil Service Examinations in India will nullify the Public Service Commission's recommendation for the formation of a Provincial Service in India. To this it may be replied that, whatever the object of the Public Service Commission's recommendation may be, it is that very recommendation that has led the people of India to agitate for the holding of the Civil Service Examination in India. For that recommendation implies an admission of the fitness of the people of India for all civil and executive posts under Government, and of the undesirability of excluding Indians from high posts under Government. The Public Service Commission has also had to admit, though not in so many words, that the present arrangement requiring the people of India to appear at the Civil Service Examination in England is neither just nor proper. The Civil Service Examinations for Australia, Canada, Natal and the other British

Colonies are held within those very colonies, and even English youths; desirous of entering those services, have to go over there to compete. And the question is, why should it be otherwise in regard to the Civil Service Examination for India? The true answer to this question must be, British selfishness stands in the way of the making of such an arrangement for this country.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 22nd, 1893.

33. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 22nd June complains that the Misrepresentation of Hindu interests of the Hindu community are not properly represented in England, and quotes the following incident by way of illustration:—

The Government of Bombay having refused to help the Puna Female School, a deputation consisting of Sir W. Wedderburn, Lady Hobhouse, Miss Manning, Mr. Digby, Mr. Dadabhai Naroji, Sir W. Hunter, Bai Rukma Bai and several others waited upon the Secretary of State and presented a petition to His Lordship.

Mr. Wedderburn said that they (the members of the Deputation) were the representatives of all castes and of all places in India.

Now, as regards female education, no one is prepared to acknowledge these gentlemen as the true representatives of India. But Lord Kimberly has probably taken them for such.

Mr. Dadabhai Naroji, who is now considered as India's representative in Parliament, said that Indian boys get more education than Indian girls, and so Government will now have to encourage female education more than the education of the boys.

But no true Hindu made any demonstration over the return to Parliament of this Mr. Naroji, and the Babus therefore spoke slightly of all their orthodox countrymen.

Bai Rukma Bai said that the men of India are trying to reform their society, but the women are proving their obstruction in the work of progress.

The Secretary of State cannot disbelieve Rukma Bai. But, in reality, matters stand in this respect in India very differently to what Rukma Bai said. For it is the men of India that are bringing ruin on their society, whilst the illiterate and orthodox women are preserving it from ruin. It is, therefore, clear that a gross mis-statement of a Hindu question has been made in the presence of the highest Indian authority. But it will be no wonder if Lord Kimberly should take it for the truth.

Lord Kimberly may not consent to help the Puna Female School, but he has been probably convinced that the ladies and gentlemen who waited upon him are the best authorities to consult on the question of female education in India. But the Secretary of State would not certainly have thought so, and he would not, consequently, have sympathised with the movement, if there had been any means of letting him know what real Hindu feeling on this subject is.

So the Hindus are in a very dangerous situation, for all their interests are misrepresented in England. Other people may have their true representatives in England, but not so the Hindus.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSHAK,
Second fortnight of
Jyaistha, 1300 B.S.

34. The *Paridarshak*, for the second fortnight of Jyaistha 1300 B.S., reports a total destruction by the late floods of the crops in the Karimganj, Maulvi Bazar, and North Sylhet subdivisions of the Sylhet district. The crops in Sylhet. The writer thinks that tea-planting operations on the hills, and the new system of roads in this part of the country, are among the chief causes of frequent floods in Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK,

55. In reviewing the Assam Jail Administration Report for 1892, the same paper says that the Assam Government has found out one means of making money at the expense of the prisoners. The practice of letting out prisoners for hire prevails in Assam alone, and the hardship which is caused to the prisoners by this practice indescribable.

While on this subject, the writer begs to draw attention to the system of unusually hard labour to which all prisoners in Assam are subjected. The prisoners are made to rise at 5 A.M., and being given their day's meal are

turned out for work at 6 A.M. In the middle of the day an apology for a respite from work is given them for one hour, and a tiffin of gram which should be given only to horses. The day's work ends at 6 P.M., when they are given the night's meal. This rigorous system will break down the health of any gentleman who may ever have the misfortune to be imprisoned.

56. The same paper says that the new rule made by the Acting Sub-Judge of Sylhet, Babu Kailash Chandra Majumdar, not to take any petition after 12 o'clock noon is causing great hardship to suitors. The other day a suitor presented a petition after the appointed time, and it was rejected. Seeing that that was the last day for making the petition, the hardship caused to the petitioner by its rejection or nonacceptance may be easily imagined.

PARIDARSHAK,
Second Fortnight of
Jyaishta 1300 B.S.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 24th June 1893.

